

Here Man's Influence is Fatal.
 Man is the only animal which is always accompanied by disease except the creatures that are his companions share his patronage. There is reason to believe that the denizens of the earth, the wild, the rivers and the sea, so far as they escape man's influence, live, with hardly an exception, healthy lives. Chronic ailments begin with man's protection in the dairy, the pen and kennel. Man has created artificial conditions with which the thousand ills that flesh is heir to are associated. It is now his supreme task to bring these conditions into harmony with the laws of his being. Sickness and debility are not to be regarded as natural and inevitable parts of our heritage, but as the fruits of rebellion against nature's laws, and therefore to be got rid of. If the human family were in ventilated houses, breathed pure air, lived temperately, with little or no alcohol, and took daily exercise in the open, it would perhaps know little more of gout, rheumatism, cancer, fever, lumbago, dyspepsia, asthma and the host of infectious troubles than do the lower animals.—London Telegraph.

An Old News Rag.
 A curious relic of the old days of the paper duties which so much hampered journalistic enterprise in the first half of the nineteenth century is the first number of Berthold's Political Handkerchief, being a news sheet printed on cotton fabric instead of paper. It was dated London, Saturday, Sept. 3, 1831; price, fourpence. And the letterpress, which is fairly legible, is as remarkable as the material on which it is printed. The tone of this news rag is intensely radical, but it reproduces the order of ceremonial to be observed at the coronation of King William IV. and Queen Adelaide on the following Thursday, and it is announced that a proclamation to the people of Europe will appear in our "next cotton." It is embellished with a medallion woodcut of Napoleon crossing the Alps, but the ink in this pictorial effort was too much for the cotton, and the Alps are in a fog and the emperor, on horseback, very indistinct.—London Mail.

Fiance and Sweetheart.
 For centuries we have tried to get the word that expresses the relation of the man to the maid he intends to marry. "Intended" has been tried and found wanting. "My bloke," "my young man"—these combinations are not heard in the best circles. "My betrothed," a phrase used in Germany, has not taken root in England. "My sweetheart" is pretty enough, but it lacks the official sound. Young men and maidens become engaged and marry, but they have to cross the channel for the word that leads them to the altar. One might suggest to the blushing girl who has to allude to the man of her acceptance "my future." French maidens speak of "mon futur," and it sounds comprehensive.—London Chronicle.

Advertising.
 Until business is successful without a proper store, proper employees and the right amount of capital, it must be assumed that these three conditions are essential to the conduct of profitable trade, and it is as obvious that so long as advertising accompanies the business of profit advertising is necessary for the upbuilding of business. The mere appearance of advertising indicates that business is being done or will be done, and so long as everybody prefers to buy of men of success rather than of men of failure just so long will the man who advertises be likely to do the largest business.

The Moat.
 Before the days of artillery the moat was an effective means of defense, particularly when filled with water. In very large forts or castles it sometimes assumed the dimensions of a lake, being often 100 yards wide and ten to twenty feet deep. The moat was crossed by a drawbridge, which could be raised at an instant's notice. When the moat was too wide to permit of this bridge covering the entire distance a slight wooden bridge was employed.

Its Curious Origin.
 The word "eavesdropper" has a curious origin. In the early part of last century the penalty of listening to or overlooking secret assemblies, especially Masonic ones, was suspension under the eaves of a house on a rainy day till the water ran through the clothing and down to the shoes of the offender.—London Express.

Court Terms.
 A court of law is a reminiscence of the time when justice sat in the open courtyard, and the "dock" is from a German word meaning a receptacle, while the "bar" is a Welsh word meaning a branch of a tree used to separate the lords of justice from their vassals.

His Revolution.
 "Speaking of revolutions," began the loquacious man, "I was the central figure in one myself once."
 "Somewhere in South America?"
 "No; in Massachusetts. I got caught in the shafting of a woolen mill."—Philadelphia Ledger.

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Wonders of Baalbek.
 Baalbek, or Baalbek, is the name given a ruined city lying in ancient Coele-Syria, forty-five miles northwest of Damascus. There is nothing particularly remarkable about a ruined city being found in the locality mentioned, but the size of the blocks of stone used by the ancient builders of this particular city is something that has puzzled the modern engineers since the day when Baalbek was first made the Mecca of the oriental traveler. There are immense stones on every side of the visitor to this ancient pile of ruins, but the three most remarkable blocks—said to be the largest ever used in the construction of a building—are in a wall back of the temple of Baal. These immense stones are respectively sixty-four, sixty-three and sixty-two feet in length and each is thirteen feet in thickness, but the most wonderful thing in connection with them is the fact that they are at a place in the wall twenty-five feet from the ground. How these immense blocks of granite were ever raised to such a height is a question that has never yet been answered.

Silenced Him.
 A Kansas City woman tells this story on her husband to demonstrate the inferiority of the masculine mind. One morning as her husband was sitting down to the breakfast table he glanced at the dining room clock and said, "We must be later than usual this morning." "Don't place too much confidence in that clock. It stopped at 5 o'clock this morning, and I just set it going by guess," replied the good wife.

"Were you up at 5 o'clock?" asked the husband.
 "Of course not."
 "What time did you say the clock stopped?"
 "At 5."
 "If you weren't up at 5," replied the man, with a puzzled look, "how in thunder do you know when the clock stopped?"
 "Why, dear, it stayed stopped," was the reply. The man did not say another word that morning.—Kansas City Times.

Dangers of Cocaine.
 Cocaine, an alkaloid of cocoa leaves, was discovered in 1859, but remained in comparative obscurity until 1894. In minute doses, whether taken internally or used as a spray on mucous surfaces, its effect is wonderfully exhilarating, producing for a time the fresh and buoyant sensations of youth and perfect health, that have apparently no unpleasant reaction, and therein lies the explanation of the subtle and irresistible power it quickly acquires over its victims, carrying them to the very brink of destruction before they have dreamed of danger. Being a cumulative poison, the first warning symptom does not appear until the fatal chains are riveted that shall drag them, horror stricken and powerless of resistance, over the precipice to complete mental, moral and physical ruin.

Foreign Flags in America.
 The first flag to float over American soil was the royal standard of Isabella, emblazoned with the arms of Castile and Leon. A white flag with a green cross was its companion. Some years after Columbus landed at San Salvador the Cabots planted the banner of England and of St. Mark of Venice on the eastern shore of North America. In the centuries that have intervened since a variety of national flags have waved where now only the stars and stripes is the accepted emblem. Over Texas have floated the French, Spanish, English, American and Confederate; in Louisiana the lilies of France, the Spanish flag, the tricolor, the American and Confederate flags; in California the Spanish, Mexican, Russian and American.

The Coconut.
 The coconut tree is the most useful of all plants in the tropical region. Its seed furnishes food and an intoxicating drink. The shell gives drinking cups and vessels and a hard material capable of a high polish, from which personal ornaments may be manufactured. The trunk furnishes wood for dwellings and boats. The leaves make clothing, cordage and ropes. The fibers of the bark and of the nut afford matting and carpets. The buds furnish a succulent vegetable, and from the trunk a palatable liquor is drawn by making an incision.

As Good as Married.
 First Sailor—No, Bill, yer don't really know what life is till yer get apliced.
 Second Sailor—W'y, shiver me timbers, messmate! I've never been married, true, but I've had yellor fever and cholera, I've been frostbit, drowned, burned alive, eat by a shark, blowed up at sea and operated on for cancer. Wot more does a reasonable chap want?—London Answers.

The Real Thing.
 Express Clerk—Value of this package, please? Fair Damsel—\$25,000.
 Express Clerk—Huh? Fair Damsel—You heard what I said. Those are love letters from old Bagoocoyne, and I'm sending 'em to my lawyer.—Cleveland Leader.